

## Tax Season

Written by Mike Honda  
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April is here again, which means that Tax Day is around the corner. I offer these reminders on how to make Tax Day a little easier for you and your family this year. The [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 \(Recovery Act\)](#)

, signed into law by President Obama in February 2009, provided more than a dozen tax cuts that working families can take advantage of this tax season. Over 110 million working Americans qualify for the Making Work Pay Tax Credit. Millions of retirees, veterans and disabled individuals also qualify for an Economic Recovery Payment. To see if you qualify for these tax credits and payments, and to calculate the total

[Recovery Act Tax Savings](#)

for you and your family, click

[here](#)

. Be sure to use the Recovery Act Tax Savings checklist when preparing your taxes or bring it to your tax preparer.

If you are looking for assistance preparing your tax return this year, you may be eligible for the [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance \(VITA\) or Tax Counseling for the Elderly \(TCE\) programs](#) offered by the IRS. Certain low- and medium-income people, people age 60 and older, and military personnel may receive help with their taxes at locations all around Santa Clara County. You can find more information about the locations and services available at the

[San Jose Library](#)

, [Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County](#)

, and the

[AARP Tax-Aide](#)

websites.

Another trend in tax filings has been the emergence of the [IRS e-file](#) system to file taxes online. Filing taxes online can increase the accuracy of your return, the speed of your return's acceptance by the IRS, and a faster refund if you qualify for one. Millions of taxpayers are filing online, saving time, paper, and postage. As April 15 approaches, remember these helpful resources to improve your tax preparation experience. As a Member of the Appropriations Committee, I work hard to promote the transparency and accountability of federal spending. I also fight to bring your tax dollars back to the district, to ensure that they are spent wisely to improve the community and enhance the quality of life in Silicon Valley.